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SENATE BILL 2041 By  
Ramsey

HOUSE BILL 2023  
By Westmoreland

AN ACT to amend Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1879; Chapter 737 of the Private Acts of 1919 and Chapter 135 of the Private Acts of 1988; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to the appointment and duties of the clerk and master of the chancery court of Sullivan County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1879, is amended by deleting from the first sentence the language "That the Chancellor of said Division shall immediately after the passage of this Act, appoint a Clerk and Master for said Court, who shall" and by substituting instead the language "That the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Sullivan County appointed pursuant to Section 3 of this act by the Chancellor for the Second Judicial District, shall".

SECTION 2. Section 2 of Chapter 737 of the Private Acts of 1919, is amended by deleting from the first sentence the language "That the Chancellor of said First Chancery Division shall immediately after the passage of this Act, appoint a Clerk and Master for said court, who shall" and by substituting instead the language "That the Clerk and Master of the

Chancery Court of Sullivan County appointed pursuant to Section 3 of this act by the Chancellor for the Second Judicial District, shall".

SECTION 3. There shall be one (1) Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Sullivan County to be appointed by the Chancellor for the Second Judicial District. Such Clerk and Master shall perform all of the duties, have all of the rights and powers, and be subject to the duties and liabilities imposed by law upon the office of Clerk and Master for all of the chancery divisions or districts of Sullivan County. Such Clerk and Master shall have all of the fees and emoluments as are provided by law to such officers.

Before entering upon the duties of such office, the Clerk and Master shall execute the bonds and take the oath of office required by law.

The Clerk and Master of Sullivan County shall keep an office at Blountville, Kingsport and Bristol.

SECTION 4. As each current incumbent Clerk and Master of the chancery districts of Blountville, Kingsport and Bristol vacates his/her office by resignation, retirement or other cause, the Clerk and Master appointed pursuant to this act shall assume the duties and responsibilities of such respective offices and the three separate offices of Clerk and Master of the chancery districts for Blountville, Kingsport and Bristol shall be thereby merged into the one.

SECTION 5. Chapter 135 of the Private Acts of 1988 is amended by deleting Section 2 in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following new section:

The Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Sullivan County shall serve as clerk for probate matters and shall be vested with the same powers and authority in such matters as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-16-201(b). The Clerk and Master shall receive no additional compensation for the duties for probate matters.

SECTION 6. All acts or parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. Nothing in this act shall be construed as having the effect of removing any incumbent Clerk and Master from office or abridging the term of such official prior to the end of the term for which such official was appointed. Nothing in this act shall be construed as having the effect of altering the salary of any incumbent Clerk and Master prior to the end of the term for which such official was appointed.

SECTION 8. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Sullivan County, to be effective on June 30, 2001. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body of Sullivan County and certified to the secretary of state.

SECTION 9. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 8.